

**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION REPORT**

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



272619

I. HEADING

Date: December 7, 1995

Subject: American Plating Chicago, Cook County, Illinois.

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POLREP # 6**II. BACKGROUND**

Site No: VF	Delivery Order No: 5001-05-379
CERCLIS No: N/A	ERNS No: N/A
Response Authority: CERCLA	NPL Status: Non-NPL
State Notification: IEPA	Start Date: 10/16/95
Demobilization Date: N/A	Completion Date: N/A
Status of Action Memorandum: Approved on September 26, 1995.	

III. SITE DESCRIPTION**A. Incident Category:** CERCLA

B. Site Location: 1820 West Lake Street
Chicago, Cook County, Illinois

1. **Site description:** The American Plating site is an inactive and abandoned electroplating facility located at 1820 West Lake Street in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois. The site is situated in a mixed residential and commercial surrounding. The Henry Horner housing projects are located to the south across Lake Street. The site comprises of 6 large rooms and occupies approximately 0.5 acres. The coordinates for the site are latitude 41°53'8" North and longitude 87°40'18" West. The building is severely deteriorated and has a weak structural integrity with collapsed roofs at several locations. Entrance doors to the site are missing at several locations and free access to the

site exists. The site area is frequented by vagrants and a lot of "drug" paraphernalia is visible throughout the building.

2. **Description of threat:** Ecology & Environment, Inc. (E & E), the U.S. EPA Technical Assistance Team (TAT) contractor, conducted a site assessment in August 1995 and found chromic acid (Ph 1.58 units) in 1 vat, a 0.48 Ph acid in a drum labelled "sulfuric acid", a spilled drum containing 54,000 mg/kg chromium (TCLP chromium 608 mg/L), and a pit containing TCLP lead concentration of 5.2 mg/L. The open vats with hazardous contaminants, and several drums and pits with hazardous contaminants posed a threat to human health and the environment.

There have been at least 2 fires inside the building. The most recent fire occurred over the week of October 14, 1995. There were also two stolen/stripped vehicles inside the building since the site walk through October 3, 1995.

- C. **Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection Results** The American Plating site has not been previously evaluated under the Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection investigative phases.

The site was brought to U.S. EPA's attention by the Chicago Department of Environment (CDOE), who investigated the site and found hazardous contaminants.

IV. **RESPONSE INFORMATION**

A. **Situation**

1. **Current situation:** Weather conditions: High temperatures ranged from low 20s to low 40s. Periods of rain and snow flurries at times during the week. Rain/snow continues to hamper work as crew deals with slippery surfaces and muddy ground. Working hour site security necessary due to high crime area where site is located.
2. **Removal activities to date:** U.S. EPA initiated a removal action on October 16, 1995 by mobilizing the Emergency Response Cleanup Services (ERCS) contractor Smith Environmental and the TAT contractor E & E. Due to past vandalism and trespass at the site and the high crime neighborhood, armed security guards were hired to provide site security. The site building is screened daily with the help of the security guards. A Bobcat unloader, a track mini-excavator, a storage trailer, and a mobile office trailer were mobilized to site.

During the last 2 weeks, completed removal of contaminated soil/sludge and wood debris from Pit #1 and stockpiled in Room #2. Loaded approximately 30 cubic yards (2 truckloads) of hazardous waste solids from Room #5 stockpile into roll-off boxes for off-site disposal. Steam cleaned Room #2 (including Pit #1), Room #3, Room #4, Room #5, and Room #6 using power washer. Placed snow fence barriers around Pits #1 and #2 and all entrances to building to restrict site access. Received analytical data for Vat #5 liquids (after treatment) and Pit #1 sludge and debris. All results revealed material as non hazardous. Analytical results of composite samples from East Wall/Room #4, Walls and Floors/Room #3, and North and South sections of Pit #2/Room #5 revealed all material as non hazardous, except for TCLP chromium levels on East Wall in Room #4. The East Wall in Room #4 was further decontaminated and resampled by TAT. Pumped neutralized residual liquids in Vat #5 into drums. Finished dismantling wood vat platforms and metal Vats #2, #3, #4, and #5. Shipped out 3 empty decontaminated vats. Disposed of small box of infectious wastes to off-site disposal facility in Germantown, Wisconsin. Conducted general site cleanup. TAT performed air monitoring inside Pit #1 in Room #2 with no levels above background recorded on oxygen/explosimeter.

3. **Enforcement:** 104(e) Notification Letters have been sent to all of the known site Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs).

B. Planned Removal Actions

Sample all site waste streams and arrange for waste disposal. Clear and sweep all areas. Remove and consolidate all waste materials in drums, vats, pits, walls, and floors. Decontaminate necessary portions of the building.

C. Next Steps

Complete disposal of drums and Room #3 debris and soil. Decontaminated all remaining floors.

D. Key Issues

Decontamination of the building:
Various alternatives are being considered for proper decontamination, however few will possibly remain within budget constraints while ensuring worker safety. Most of the alternatives will limit or disallow complete decontamination.

V. COSTS

Extramural Costs:

Total Cleanup Contractor (e.g, ERCS) Costs	\$ 145,235.31
IAGs	\$ 0.00
Cooperative Agreements/Letter Contracts	\$ 0.00
TAT/START	\$ 8,312.00
CLP	\$ 0.00
REAC	\$ 0.00
TOTAL, EXTRAMURAL COSTS	\$ 153,547.31

Intramural Costs:

Direct Costs (Region, HQ, ERT)	\$ 7,935.00
Intramural Indirect Costs	\$ 14,007.10
TOTAL, INTRAMURAL COSTS	\$ 21,942.10

<u>TOTAL SITE COST</u>	<u>\$ 175,489.41</u>
Project Ceiling	\$ 323,000.00
Project Funds Remaining (percentage)	54%

The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor. Other financial data, which the OSC must rely upon, may not be entirely up to date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

VI. DISPOSITION OF WASTES

<u>Wastestream</u>	<u>Medium</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Containment</u>	<u>Treatment</u>	<u>Disposal</u>
Non-haz debris	Solid	80 cu.yds.	Roll-off box	Hegewisch Landfill	Landfill
Haz waste	solid	150 cu.yds.	Roll-off box	City Envir. Landfill	Landfill
Waste corr. liq.	Liquid	4,100 gals.	Tanker	Dynecol, Inc.	Treatment
Infectious waste	Solid	sm. bag	cardboard box	Environ. Guardian	Incineration
Haz waste	solid	30 cu.yds.	Roll-off box	City Envir. Landfill	Landfill